

REMARKS

Claims 1-11, 13-18, 20-23, and 30-32 are presented for further examination. Claims 1-18, 20-23, and 30 have been amended. Claims 31 and 32 have been added and claim 29 has been canceled.

In the Office Action mailed November 13, 2008, the Examiner rejected claims 1-7, 20, 29, and 30 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over previously-cited Schmidt in view of previously-cited Smith. Claims 21-23 were rejected as obvious over Schmidt in view of Smith and further in view of previously-cited Heinonen. Claims 8-9 and 16-18 were rejected as obvious over Schmidt in view of Smith and further in view of previously-cited Keskitalo. Claims 13-15 were rejected as obvious over Schmidt in view of Smith and further in view of previously-cited Cencich.

In remarks accompanying the rejection, the Examiner disagreed with arguments submitted by applicant's prior counsel. More specifically, the Examiner interpreted the claim language of "each of the antennas" as meaning "either one or the other" of Smith's antennas 26 and 44 as having the transmission-connector or the reception-connector.

Applicant respectfully disagrees with the bases for the rejections and requests reconsideration and further examination of the claims.

Independent claim 1 has been amended to recite the antenna terminal having "a first antenna and at least a second antenna that are connected to respective switches, the first antenna having at a first end a first transmission-connector for connecting the first antenna to the transmission path and having at a second end a first reception-connector for connecting the first antenna to the reception path, the at least second antenna having at a first end a second transmission-connector for connecting the at least second antenna to the transmission path and having at a second end a second reception-connector for connecting the at least second antenna to the reception path."

The foregoing amendment corresponds to the text accompanying Figure 3 of the present application. Claim 1 now clearly recites that each of the antennas has a transmission-connector for connecting to the transmission path and a reception-connector for connecting to the

reception path. In contrast, the antennas 26 of Smith connect only to the transmission path, and the Smith antennas 44 only connect to the reception path. Smith does not teach or suggest a single one of these antennas as having a connection to both the transmission path and the reception path.

In view of the Examiner's apparent interpretation of the prior claim language of "each of the antennas" as meaning "either one or the other of," applicant respectfully submits that the foregoing amendment clearly distinguishes over Smith as well as the combination of Schmidt and Smith. Thus, claim 1 is neither taught nor suggested by Schmidt and Smith and is allowable.

Dependent claims 2-11 and 13-18 are allowable for the features recited therein as well as for the reasons why claim 1 is allowable.

Independent claim 20 and independent claim 30 have each been amended to include the amendment to claim 1 with respect to the antenna terminal and the connection of the respective first antenna and at least a second antenna as recited in these independent claims. Applicant respectfully submits that independent claims 20 and 30, as well as all claims depending therefrom, are allowable for the reasons discussed above with respect to claim 1.

In the event the Examiner disagrees or finds minor informalities that can be resolved by telephone conference, the Examiner is urged to contact applicant's undersigned representative by telephone at (206) 622-4900 in order to expeditiously resolve prosecution of this application. Consequently, early and favorable action allowing these claims and passing this case to issuance is respectfully solicited.

The Director is authorized to charge any additional fees due by way of this Amendment, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-1090.

Respectfully submitted,
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